no delay on the part of Aquaculture Authority in issuing approvals for shrimp aquaculture farms.

Banning import of poultry products

1705. SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN A RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that poultry products are imported from various countries, including the countries where disease like Avian Influenza nare prevalent;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any action to ban import of poultry products from such countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Import of all poultry products are allowed from various countries against Sanitary Import Permit after conducting the Risk Analysis on International Principles as per Notification No. 655(E) dated 7th July, 2001 issued under the provision of Livestock Importation Act, 1898 to prevent the ingress of exotic diseases. However, the import of all poultry products and live poultry has been prohibited from the countries where Avian Influenza has been reported as per Notification No. 801 (E) dated 17.8.2001 issued under the provision of the said Act.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Decline in foodgrains output

1706. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a sharp decline in outputof foodgrains during 2002-03 as reported in the Hindu' dated 12th February, 2003;